

unnecessary rules and regulations that actually reduces the number of jobs it could create.

Mr. Speaker, over the next several weeks there are going to be those who say everything imaginable to allow the American people or force the American people to take their eye off the ball. I believe in the American people, the common sense that they will prevail in the end, and not only that, but that we will place our faith in their wisdom and judgment to know that when there is too much money left here in Washington, too many people want to spend it. I say when we take care of Social Security, Medicare, strengthen our national defense and protect our environment and improve education, what is left over we send back home to the people who earned it, to strengthen freedom, to strengthen liberty, and continue our path to prosperity, not only for families that I represent so proudly and humbly in Staten Island and Brooklyn, but all across this great country. I suspect that when we have this debate, the American people will understand who is right.

#### TITLE IX AND ITS EFFECTS FOR OUR COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHERWOOD). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to honor the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) for her good works on Title IX and everything else she does here for women and children and families and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, last Monday night I had the chance to see in person the effects of Title IX firsthand. And let me tell my colleagues, I was impressed. Last Monday night, a number of my colleagues and I flew to Florida with the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team and with the First Lady to watch the space shuttle launch. While we were there, we met with female astronauts and we met with other women involved with the space program.

Of course, I do not have to describe the American women's soccer team to anyone that is listening here tonight or anybody in this Chamber. I cannot imagine that there is an American who has not heard of their skill, their power, and their success and does not hold them in awe.

These women, these young women are the products of Title IX. They are the perfect example of the importance of Title IX. They are an example for every female player on every women's sport team in the Nation. But less well known are the benefits of Title IX for women like the women astronauts that I met.

Title IX says that no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded or discriminated against under any educational program or activity receiving Federal aid. So it is not just sports. Be-

fore Title IX, most institutions of higher education, as the gentlewoman from Hawaii told us, refused to admit women or have strict quotas on the number of women admitted. Since Title IX, however, there have been significant increases in women's educational achievements, particularly in what were traditionally all-male fields like science, engineering, math, and technology.

So while we were gathered there the other night to celebrate the very real achievements of women on and off the playing field due to Title IX, we must also be aware of how much there is left to do. According to the National Science Foundation, the low participation of women in math, science, and engineering is a true and serious national problem. Too many girls lose interest in science and math during elementary and middle school and refuse to take, or fail to take advantage of these courses that they will need to prepare themselves for technical and science degrees, and technical and science high-paid careers. Too few women earn college degrees in science, engineering, math, and technology. Even though women make up slightly more than 50 percent of our population, they are less than 30 percent of America's scientists.

My colleagues may be asking me, so what? Is that some national problem? Well, the answer is absolutely yes, this is a big problem. A big problem for employers, a big problem for women as future wage-earners, and a huge problem for our Nation as we compete in the global marketplace. Quite clearly, there is no way for America to have a technically competent work force if the majority of students, females, do not prepare themselves and study for science, math, and technology careers.

That is why I have introduced a bill to help school districts encourage girls to pursue these technical careers. My bill is formally entitled, *Getting Our Girls Ready for the 21st Century Act*, but it is known as "Go, Girl." Go, Girl will encourage a bold new work force of energized young women in science, math, engineering, and technology. Go, Girl funds programs in elementary and high school to encourage girls to study and pursue careers in those fields.

Today, women are big winners on the soccer field, and that is with the help of Title IX. Now we need to get Title IX and Go, Girl into the classroom to make more girls and their future employers winners by preparing girls for careers in science, math, engineering, and technology.

Mr. Speaker, Title IX says, no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded or discriminated against under any educational program or activity receiving Federal aid. Our job now is to encourage all girls and young women to take advantage of Title IX opportunities and like the American soccer women and the women astronauts, become all that they can be.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAYNE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the *Extensions of Remarks*.)

#### THANKS TO TITLE IX, WOMEN CONTINUE TO MAKE HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking and applauding our cochair, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and our covice-chair, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) for putting together this Special Order and all of my other women colleagues for joining us this evening.

I want to join also in thanking the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) and former Congresswoman Edith Green for their foresight in championing and protecting the rights of women and young girls against gender discrimination within the educational system of this country, particularly in athletics; and I want to also thank all the other Members of Congress who have continued to fight to end discrimination of all kinds in this Nation.

Title IX was important legislation, and its impact is immeasurable. Its very intent was the impetus for ensuring that today's heroes would become role models for the young girls of today and those yet to be born. Access to equal opportunities in education has made it possible for all of us to be here as representatives in Congress. Thanks to those like the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) who came before me, when I was fortunate to have been accepted into medical school, unfortunately, we were still less than 5 percent of our class. Now, women at George Washington University School of Medicine, my alma mater, make up more than 50 percent of any incoming class.

In the past few weeks we have also had outstanding examples of what Title IX has done for women in the United States since its implementation. As many have said, on Friday, Air Force Colonel Eileen Collins made NASA and U.S. history as the first woman to command a space shuttle; and of course, we are all still basking in the success as well in the recent victory of the women's soccer team this month at the World Cup, which indicates what significant progress continues to be made each and every day.

More women are enrolled in college and universities than ever and are pursuing postgraduate and professional degrees, a key factor in the swell of women-owned businesses across this country today. One of the most obvious benefits of Title IX is the impact it has had on women's participation in intercollegiate athletics, and our young